

NOTE: A biography of Ambassador Pickering was attached to the press release.

### **Nomination of Jim King To Be Director of the Office of Personnel Management**

*January 26, 1993*

President Clinton today announced that he intends to nominate Jim King as Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

"Jim King will bring invaluable expertise, knowledge, and enthusiasm to the Office of Personnel Management," said President Clinton.

Mr. King currently serves as chief of staff for U.S. Senator John Kerry. He previously served as senior vice president for government and community affairs at Northeastern University and Special Assistant to the President in the Office of Presidential Personnel during the Carter administration. Other experience includes chairman of the board of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; associate vice president, State and community affairs, at Harvard University; and Chairman of the Board and member of the National Transportation and Safety Board.

The Office of Personnel Management administers a merit system for Federal employment that includes recruiting, examining, training, and promoting people on the basis of their knowledge and skills, regardless of race, religion, sex, political influence, or other nonmerit factors. "I am deeply honored to accept this challenging role of ensuring that the Federal Government has the best, brightest, and most diversified work force we possibly can," said King. The Office's role is to ensure that the Federal Government provides an array of personnel services to applicants and employees.

Mr. King received his bachelor of arts at the American International College and is a fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government Institute of Politics.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan**

*January 28, 1993*

**Q.** Mr. President, what's the principle you're fighting for in sticking with your plan to ban gays in the military? What's the principle that you believe that makes you want to stick with that?

**The President.** I came here to talk about the economy today with Mr. Greenspan. If he wants to express his opinion on that subject, I'll be glad to hear it. *[Laughter]* Most people with whom I talk, except you folks, never discuss that. We have other things we're trying to deal with.

**Q.** Sir, there was good news about the economy—*[inaudible]*

**The President.** I think that there's a lot of response to the efforts we're making now, but there's also a lot of troubling news about lost jobs. And we've got a lot of work to do, a lot of work to do.

NOTE: The exchange began at 9:37 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks Honoring the School Principal of the Year and an Exchange With Reporters**

*January 28, 1993*

**The President.** This is Janie R. Hill Hatton from Milwaukee, and she is the School Principal of the Year. You can tell she's from Wisconsin because Senator Kohl is here, but I have to tell you she also grew up in my hometown of Hot Springs, Arkansas. We grew up in the same town. She's younger than I am. *[Laughter]*

That's her husband, Isaac, who also comes from Arkansas. And these other three gentlemen are with the National Association of School Principals.

**Mrs. Hatton.** And MetLife.